

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 03652 151210 Z

43

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-04 IGA-02 EB-05 L-03 /074 W

----- 065338

R 151106 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4098

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 3652

AIDAC

E. O. 11652: GDS

SUBJECT: RLG MEASURES RELATING TO EXPORTS

REF: STATE 90321

1. MINISTRY OF NATIONAL ECONOMY HAS RECENTLY ISSUED A NUMBER OF DECREES CONCERNING THE EXPORTS OF LUMBER. MAIN PROVISIONS INCLUDE:

A. A NEW MANDATORY SCHEDULE TO FOB PRICES FOR EXPORT DECLARATIONS;

B. THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE SURRENDER REQUIREMENT TO THE BNL IS RAISED FROM 80 PERCENT TO 100 PERCENT OF THE DECLARED VALUE;

C. AN EXPORT PREMIUM OF 220 KIP PER DOLLAR PAYABLE BY THE BNL UPON THE SURRENDER OF THE EXPORT PROCEEDS, CHARGEABLE TO THE RLG BUDGET;

D. AN EXPORT FEE VARYING ACCORDING TO THE CATEGORY OF LUMBER, PAYABLE TO CUSTOMS AT THE TIME OF DEPOSIT OF EXPORT DECLARATION. ITS PROCEEDS ARE TO BE DEPOSITED IN A CHAPTER OF THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL ECONOMY BUDGET.

2. ABOVE DECREES WERE ISSUED WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF MINISTER OF FINANCE WHO WAS ABSENT DURING GOOD PART OF RECENT WEEKS FOR ADB BOARD OF GOVERNOR MEETINGS. SIGNATURE OF VIENTIANE POWER TRANSMISSION  
LOAN WITH ADB MANILA AND INTERNAL TRAVEL IN HIS CAPACITY AS DELEGATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. UPON HIS RETURN BOTH USAID DIR AND IMF RES REP SEPARATELY AND JOINTLY HAVE VOICED THEIR CONCERN TO HIM, POINTING OUT THE BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR  
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PAGE 02 VIENTI 03652 151210 Z

ABUSE.

3. GOVERNMENT POLICY CONCERNING LUMBER EXPORTS IS NOW BEING ACTIVELY REVIEWED BY MINISTER OF FINANCE AND WE EXPECT THAT THE OBJECTIONABLE PROVISIONS WILL BE MODIFIED OR CANCELLED. SISOUK AGAIN OUT OF TOWN TRAVELLING SOUTH. HE IS EXPECTED TO RETURN EVENING MAY 15. USAID DIR HAS ASKED FOR APPOINTMENT FOR ENERGETIC FOLLOW-UP.

4. SINCE DICTATING THIS MESSAGE, USAID DIR MET WITH MINFIN SISOUK. MEETING TO DISCUSS EXPORT SUBSIDY PROBLEMS SET FOR 1100 HRS MAY 18 WITH MINFIN, IMF RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE, GOVERNOR OF NATIONAL BANK AND USAID DIR.  
DEAN

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 15 MAY 1973  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** RLG MEASURES RELATING TO EXPORTS  
**TAGS:** BEXP, ETRD, LA  
**To:** STATE  
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